## State of South Caroling Sovernor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS, stroke, or brain attack, is a leading cause of adult disability and the third leading cause of death in America, killing an estimated 160,000 people annually; and
- **WHEREAS,** every 53 seconds someone in the United States experiences a stroke; and
- WHEREAS, of the more than four million stroke survivors in the United States, approximately two-thirds live with moderate to severe disabilities; and
- **WHEREAS,** South Carolina has the highest incidence of stroke in the United States; and
- WHEREAS, stroke is one of the most preventable of all life-threatening health problems, with prevention and early treatment dramatically reducing a patient's chance of disability or death; and
- WHEREAS, knowledge of the risks and warning signs of a stroke is essential to prevention and early treatment; and
- WHEREAS, Stroke Awareness Month urges people to take charge of their health by asking their doctors about stroke risks and adopting healthy lifestyle habits to lower those risks.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 2004 as

## STROKE AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to ask their doctors about stroke prevention and the warning signs of stroke.

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MARK SANFORD GOVERNOR STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA